

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 2, delete the sixth paragraph and insert therefor:

E1 applying heat to ~~gel~~ fuse the coating between the belts;

Page 2, delete the seventh paragraph and insert therefor:

E2 smoothing the ~~gelled~~ fused coating to provide a layer of desired thickness; and cooling the layer.

Page 3, delete the first paragraph and insert therefor:

E3 In an especially preferred embodiment of the invention, the ~~gelled~~ fused coating is smoothed by leading the ~~gelled~~ fused coating between a nipping means.

Page 3, delete the eighth paragraph and insert therefor:

E4 applying heat to ~~gel~~ fuse the coatings between the belts;

Page 3, delete the ninth paragraph and insert therefor:

E5 smoothing the ~~gelled~~ fused coatings to provide a layered product of desired thickness; and

Page 5, delete the sixth paragraph and insert therefor:

E6 applying heat to the belts to ~~gel~~ fuse the thermoplastics material to form a backing layer on one face of the substrate and a saturation or basecoat layer on the other face of the substrate.

Page 5, delete the tenth paragraph and insert therefor:

E7 applying heat to the belts to ~~gel~~ fuse the third thermoplastics material to form a basecoat layer on the saturation layer.

Page 6, delete the fourth paragraph and insert therefor:

E8 Preferably, the substrate is cooled after ~~gelling~~ fusing by leading the pair of belts through a cooling station.

Page 8, delete the second paragraph and insert therefor:

E9 After heating, the substrate supported between the upper and lower belts 10, 11 is led between a pair of nipping rollers 15, 16 to smooth the ~~gelled~~ fused coating to provide a layer of desired thickness.

Page 8, delete the third paragraph and insert therefor:

E10 The ~~gelled~~ fused layer substrate is then cooled between the pair of belts at a cooling station 17. The cooling station 17 comprises a plurality of top and bottom cooling sections 18, 19, the operating temperature of which may be adjusted in groups or individually. The layered substrate 30 may then be wound onto a take-up reel 40.

Page 8, delete the fourth paragraph and insert therefor:

E11 Further layers may be scattered onto the ~~gelled~~ fused substrate by leading the substrate through the apparatus again as described above or through another similar apparatus arranged in series.

Page 9, delete the third paragraph and insert therefor:

E12 Referring particularly to Figs. 6 to 10 the substrate may be defined by one of the heating belts 3, 11. In this case, a first material may be scattered onto the first belt 3, 21 at the first scattering station 4, a substrate 26 applied over the first coating and a second coating applied over the substrate 26 from the second scattering station 28. The substrate with the first and second scattered layers is then led under the second belt 10 and the layered product is heated to ~~gel~~ fuse the coatings. For example, a backing layer may be formed on one face of the substrate and a saturation or basecoat layer on the other face of the substrate.

Page 10, delete the second paragraph and insert therefor:

El3 In an alternative or additional arrangement illustrated in Figs. 14 and 15 the ~~gelled~~ fused coating may be smoothed or further smoothed by leading the substrate supported on the lower belt 11 over a large diameter smoothing roller 20. To optimize the operation of the smoothing roller 20, the substrate is first led over an infeed roller 21 on the infeed side and is led over an outfeed roller 22 at the outfeed side of the smoothing roller 20.